

CITY OF POLSON

COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING

Commission Chambers

October 6, 2014

6:33 p.m.

ATTENDANCE: Mayor Heather Knutson, City Commissioners: John Campbell, Todd Erickson, Ken Siler, Jill Southerland, Stephen Turner, City Manager Mark Shrives, and City Clerk Cora Pritt.

ABSENT: Commissioner Dan Morrison

Others present (that voluntarily signed in): Elsa Duford, Bonnie Manicke

CALL TO ORDER - Mayor Knutson called the meeting to order. The pledge of allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED AGENDA-Commissioner Campbell motion to approve the proposed agenda. Commissioner Southerland second. Commission Discussion: none Public Comment-none.
VOTE: Unanimous Motion Carried

Mayor Knutson reminded everyone that this is a continuance of the September 15, 2014 Public Hearing.

City Finance Officer Cindy Dooley presented the Special Assessments. In the past the two resolutions have been done separately. These resolutions are supposed to have been done at the same time as the budget. So, that is why the Public Hearing had to remain open. This is the same as Agenda Item No. 14 on the Commission Meeting Agenda. There are five special assessments:

Number 42 (commonly known as "Streetscape")	\$86,634.42
Street Light Maintenance District #19	\$14,078.23
Street Light Maintenance District #20	\$ 4,871.36
Noxious Weed Control Maintenance	\$ 2,900.00
Delinquent Utilities	\$ 1,943.26
TOTAL SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS LEVY	\$92,427.27

Commissioner Campbell asked about the Street Light district and how that is split out. Is it charged to only the people in the area or the entire town? Finance Officer Dooley explained that it is based on the Original Area that has those lights. Commissioner Campbell inquired that the people that live outside this area do not get assessed. Finance Officer Dooley responded that those residences do not get assessed for it. If those residence want a street light, they are responsible to pay for the light.

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING TO TAKE PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED CITY OF POLSON FISCAL YEAR 2014-15 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET.

Mayor Knutson invited anyone with a comment to please come to the podium.

Lee Manicke-"The way this is worded, I think it is appropriate to comment. It's about the Levy for the Government review. The total amount collected is \$14, 970.00 not the \$14, 500.00 that

they said on the ballot. That other \$470.00 comes from the Tax Increment District (TID). We've got this incremental value that is hanging out here and we don't really consider that number when we are talking about our budget and none of these ever get told to the public. They're not on the ballot and that is an error of omission. By any ethics course given, an error of omission is flagrant of a violation as an error of commission. Nobody ever explains any of this to the public. I think it needs to get done. Someone has got to stand up and put it on the ballot that these levies are bigger than what's stated. The school levy, the swimming pool levy, all of those levies. \$470.00 is not a big deal, but it is. There's 100 mills for the City people of Polson. Not just from the City of Polson but the tax payers from Polson have 100 mill additional since the start of the Tax Increment District. That represents about \$32,000.00 is being diverted from the way that people vote, it goes to the TID. It's the way you folks vote. You never discuss that when you vote, that we're going to have 157 mills or whatever it is, and it's going to generate so many dollars. It also generates some dollars for the TID and you don't really explain that to yourselves. You don't recognize it. I think it needs to get recognized. So it is a big deal. \$470.00 a few cents per house, \$100,000.00 as they say. Not a big deal. Yeah it is a big deal."

Elsa Duford, "I just didn't understand you correctly. Did you say that the City picks up some of the Commercial Street Lighting levies for downtown? Mayor Knutson, "Yes. Cindy do you want to explain that a little bit more?" Finance Officer Dooley, "It is a 60/40 split. The City pays 60% of the electricity cost and the District pays 40%." Elsa Duford, "Okay. That really translates the rest of the tax payers, when you say the City, are really picking that up. The tax payers are picking up way too many things."

Mayor Knutson closed the Public Hearing.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON SIGNIFICANT MATTERS TO THE PUBLIC NOT ON THE AGENDA- Note: there was no comment.

Mayor Knutson asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Turner motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Siler second. Vote: Unanimous Motion carried

ADJOURNED 6:44 p.m.

Mayor Knutson

ATTEST:

Cora E. Pritt, City Clerk